



Think Weekly



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PEACETIME SPIES AT WORK

COMMUNIST PERSECUTION OF LUTHERAN CHURCH IN ESTONIA

Reprinted from The Eleventh Hour, Official Organ of the Lutheran Research Society, Detroit, Michigan

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Formerly Professor and Vice-Rector of the Estonian University at Tartu, Chairman of the Estonian Congregation in Stockholm.

PART TWO

(continued from last week)

After the puppet parliament, that emerged from farcical "elections," staged with complete disregard of the law, under the pressure of the Russian Red Army's bayonets, had proclaimed Estonia a soviet republic and asked the Soviet Russian Supreme Council to consent to its entry into the Soviet Union, which demand was immediately agreed to, the anti-religious policy of the government became still further strengthened. All churches and religious communities lost at a stroke all their property without compensation. This act of robbery, by the new authorities euphemistically called "nationalization," was enforced in October, 1940. Not only houses, farm lands and other real estates, destined to maintain parsons and other officers of the Church, but also all funds, bonds and banking accounts, vehicles (e.g. motorcars), old-age homes with their household establishments, and in some cases even churchyards were expropriated. At the same time the Church lost the status and the rights of a corporate body. "The church loses the support of the state and all privileges which it enjoyed under the government of Mr. Pats," writes the "Kommunist" on August 9th. "All property of the churches is declared the property of the people, all religious communities are converted into private companies and

(continued on page 2, col. 3)

ELEANOR'S PET GROUP IS HIT BY U. S. ATTORNEY

Denver Communists and the American Youth for Democracy group at Colorado University are the objects of a stinging attack by United States District Attorney Thomas J. Morrissey.

Branding Communism as "the major menace to American liberty," Morrissey says Denver Reds are among the best-organized groups in the country. And as for the American Youth for Democracy — which recently created a furore on the Colorado University campus — the district attorney says it's just another name for the young Communist league.

Morrissey says the Communist party is growing by gathering into its ranks young Negroes, Spanish-Americans, and Jews — and then convincing them that they are victims of discrimination.

WHY LINCOLN REFUSED TO ANSWER ATTACKERS

"If I were to try to read, much less answer, all the attacks made on me, this shop might as well be closed for any other business. I do the very best I can; and I mean to keep doing so until the end. If the end brings me out all right, what is said against me won't amount to anything. If the end brings me out wrong, ten angels swearing I was right would make no difference." — Abraham Lincoln.

If you receive extra papers pass them along to your friends and ask them to subscribe.

U. S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TELLS OF AMERICAN - BORN GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES EN- GAGED IN ESPIONAGE FOR COMMUNISTS

The following is taken from a report of the Committee on Socialism and Communism of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, entitled "Communists Within the Government" released January, 1947:

SIGNIFICANCE OF COMMUNIST PARTY MEMBERSHIP

The presence of Communists in government has deep significance. At various times in the history of the Communist Party, USA, it has openly disclosed what is implied in party membership. In 1935 in New York City, two thousand new Communists took the following pledge:

I pledge myself to rally the masses to defend the Soviet Union, the land of victorious Socialism. I pledge myself to remain at all times a vigilant and firm defender of the Leninist line of the Party, the only line that insures the triumph of Soviet Power in the United States.

Each Communist Party application carried the following declaration:

The undersigned declares his adherence to the program and statutes of the C.I. (Communist International) and the Communist Party of the U.S.A. and agrees to submit to the discipline of the Party and to engage actively in its work.

Such pledges are not openly publicized during the present period but they are implicit in the teachings of Lenin and Stalin, to which the Communist Party, USA, fully subscribes at the present time.

Discussing the relations between the Communist Party, its front organization (continued on page 2, col. 1)

PEACE-TIME SPIES AT WORK (continued from first page)

tions and the Soviet Military Intelligence, the Soviet Secret Police (or OGPU), General Walter Krivitsky, former member of the Soviet Intelligence Service, declared in his testimony before the Special Committee on Un-American Activities on October 11, 1939, that such people:

Are recruited for the OGPU from the Communist Party and from organizations which are regarded as sympathetic with the Communist Party, and that often for a particular job it was more advantageous to use a person who was actually not a member of the party.

ESPIONAGE AND SEDITION

Americans do not normally think in terms of espionage and sedition. We reserve such "cloak and dagger" material for war time, or for mystery stories centering in the turbulent Balkan region. We would consider even occasional peaceful espionage as fantastic. Certainly we are not prepared for mass espionage, motivated not by thoughts of revenge or monetary gain, but merely by fanatical devotion to the interests of the Soviet Union. Yet the June 27, 1946, Report of the Canadian Royal Commission describes a startling pattern which is not confined to Canada:

Perhaps the most startling single aspect of the entire Fifth Column network is the uncanny success with which the Soviet agents were able to find Canadians who were willing to betray their country and to supply to agents of a foreign power secret information to which they had access in the course of their work, despite oaths of allegiance, of office, and of secrecy which they had taken.

An application of this idea to American conditions was made by Major General William J. Donovan, former Chief of the Office of Strategic Services. As late as March, 1945, General Donovan defended the employment in OSS of such well-known Communists as Irving Goff, Irving Fajans, Milton Wolff, and Vincent Losowski. A number of pro-Communists in the OSS were subsequently blanketed into strategic intelligence posts in the State Department. Granting the General's thesis that, "no foreign policy can be stronger than the information upon which it is based," it can be seen how considerations of wartime expediency have endangered our safety.

In recommending the reorganization of our Intelligence system, he declared

(LIFE Magazine, Sept. 30, 1946):

The N.K.V.D., the U.S.S.R.'s secret service, operates everywhere and in a highly distinctive manner.

N.K.V.D. depends characteristically on sheer mass. It has thousands of operators scattered throughout the world in countries friendly and not so friendly. It draws information from a vast number of sources — trained secret agents, agents provocateurs, fellow travelers, Communists, as well as the customary diplomatic channels.

This statement is significant, since it reflects disillusionment with Communist professions of loyalty.

PEDIGREE OF HAMILTON FISH

By L. D. Staplin, Burlington, Wis.

Who is "Ham" Fish? His pedigree rivals that of a prize bull.

Nicholas Fish, (1758-1833) served in the Revolutionary War. His son Hamilton Fish (1808-1893) was governor of New York during 1849-1851, and United States Senator 1851-1857. He also was Secretary of State under President Grant, 1869-1877. "Ham" Fish is his son.

In 1930, Speaker Nicholas Longworth appointed him chairman of a House Committee to investigate Un-American Activities. And he did his job so well he became Stalin's Number One Enemy. No American knows more REAL COMMUNISM. He was slated by seniority for Chairman of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. Stalin could not afford to allow him to hold that seat, and after serving many years in the House, he was purged last election. He's **THE PEOPLE**.

"I know something of taxes. For three long years I have been going up and down the country preaching that Government — Federal and State and local — costs too much. I shall not stop that preaching." — Franklin D. Roosevelt, Chicago, July, 1932.

"The people in America demand a reduction of Federal expenditures. It can be accomplished by reducing the expenditures of existing departments; by abolishing many useless Commissions, Bureaus and functions; and by consolidating many activities of Government." — Franklin D. Roosevelt, Brooklyn, Nov., 1932.

(Ed. Note: ? ? ? ? ?)

COMMUNIST PERSECUTION OF LUTHERAN CHURCH IN ESTONIA (continued from first page)

lose the rights of corporate bodies." Especially high tariffs were applied to all clergymen and their families for school fees, electric current, rents, etc. (see particulars further on). Parallel to this the all powerful state authorities organized the "League of Anti-Religious Fighters" and started a systematic anti-religious campaign, using to this end schools, special courses, radio, theatre, cinema, books, magazines, newspapers and other devices and means.

AIM — ANNIHILATION OF RELIGION

It was not tried to make any secret of the aim to be attained by this policy. The aim was — **annihilation of the Church and extirpation of religious feelings and convictions from the minds of the people as soon as possible.** This was clearly stated on October 9th in the daily "Kommunist," which according to its headline is the official organ of the Communist party and of the highest state authority of the Estonian Soviet Republic, the "Supreme Council." The paper states:

"Religion is a reactionary social factor. During hundreds of years religion has served the purposes of exploiters and defended the capitalist society based on class divisions. It will defend this society in future too. Religion is an obstacle on the way of the working people, preventing it from becoming masters of their destinies. The communist party fights against every kind of religion. Making use of the freedom of anti-religious propaganda, we must develop an all-embracing scientific anti-religious propaganda." A great number of similar statements could be quoted from Estonian papers published under the Soviet rule. It will do, however, to add but the following tirade out of the leading article of the official paper "Rahva Haal" of the 7th of March, 1941, bearing the headline: "Anti-religious propaganda is to be conducted with knowledge and dexterity".

SOVIET-SPONSORED ATHEISM!

"All religions are hostile to communism. Religion is the adversary of every kind of progress and science. Religion will not by itself vanish from human consciousness. On the contrary, to overcome religion, patient and hard educational work must be carried out among the masses. It will take a long time to liquidate it from the human minds. It is our duty to explain systematically every day the perniciousness of religion and to help the working people to get rid of the fetters of religious

ideas. It is necessary to create all over the country an all-embracing net of the League of Anti Religious Fighters. The communist party, trade unions and organizations of communist youth must in every way assist the League of Anti-Religious Fighters."

The entire fight against religion and Church in Estonia was the work of the Soviet government and the communist party, which was but an instrument in the hands of the all-powerful government for enforcing its decisions. It is completely out of the question that anti-religious propaganda and the organizations conducting the fight against religion were started on spontaneous initiative of anti-religiously minded private persons or that private initiative was the supporter of this activity. There can be no private initiative whatsoever in the Soviet Union, where every social activity is completely and uniformly regulated. Everything in that state is initiated and directed by the totalitarian state itself. The whole anti-religious activity under Soviet rule was created on the initiative and by the orders of the government and was supported by state funds. It had to be forced upon the people against their will, and its results were for the most part opposite to what was desired, for the people's attitude towards it was outspokenly negative and hostile. Anti-religious propagandists were trained at special courses by public authorities. Thus, in the above quoted leading article of the "Rahva Haal" of the 7th of March, 1941, it is stated that courses for anti-religious propagandists, which started their activities on the 6th of March in Tallinn, "were organized by the section for political education of the People's Commissariat of Education." "Teaching in international and anti-religious spirit," was officially prescribed even for Kindergartens, which were intended for children between 3 and 7 years old. (See the General Regulations Regarding the Kindergartens, published by the Estonian Soviet Government on the 7th of March, 1941).

Christian education and religious teaching, on the other hand, were not only abolished in all schools, but also forbidden outside the schools. "It is natural that since religious teaching is forbidden in schools, religious activity among children and youths outside the schools, too, is forbidden," writes the "Kommunist" on the 4th of September 1940. "Confirmation classes are to be stopped as well as Sunday Schools and church choirs of children and all other devices of God's servants for obscuring the minds of children at houses of prayer and at bible-lessons in homes." Religious teaching of children became a crime punishable in virtue of the Crim-

inal Code of the Soviet Union (sec. 122). Even christening of children became a crime (sec. 123 of the same Code).

RELIGIOUS LITERATURE FORBIDDEN

Religious literature, too, was forbidden. This was announced in newspapers under headlines such as: "Literature of low quality is being done away with." An order issued by the Chief for Interior Security on the 22nd of August, prescribed among other things that "all kinds of religious literature aiming through the religious feelings of the people at political ends hostile to the people has to be confiscated from all book shops, publishers and libraries. ("Rahva Haal", the 23rd of August, 1940).

The official review the "Soviet Culture," in its first issue for 1940 justified this policy by the following arguments: "It is obvious that socialism and religion have nothing in common, since they are two things quite opposite to each other. Religion obscures the minds and dupes the people. It cannot be tolerated in the country of the proletarian dictatorship that anti-socialist, reactionary and ignorant ideas are allowed to spread freely. The Soviet state which protects the interests of the people, does not permit free propaganda of religious ideas, since this intoxicates the workers' consciousness."

RED CONSTITUTION GIVES FALSE FREEDOM

Religiously-minded people who were from day to day reading such utterances and seeing such attitude of the Soviet state towards religion and the Church, quite naturally wondered how all this agreed with freedom of conscience, which is solemnly guaranteed to Soviet citizens in the Constitution of "the Estonian Soviet Republic" as well as in that of the Soviet Union. Very soon they had to experience that in Soviet Russia it is with "the freedom of conscience" as it is with all other rights and freedoms proclaimed in the Constitution such as freedom of speech, etc. In actual life not even the least sign of these nice things is to be seen. They exist only on paper — in the Soviet Constitution, in which they have been taken up exclusively for reasons of propaganda to dupe the culturally behindhand and primitively minded Russians, as well as foreigners with insufficient knowledge of Russian conditions, suggesting the false idea that Soviet, too, is a democratic state with democratic rights and freedoms. In order to facilitate this fraud words are often given quite unusual meanings. This trick is also played with the notion of "freedom of conscience." How

to interpret this notion, employed in the new Soviet Constitution, was authoritatively explained in the leading review of the Russian Communist party "Pod Snamenem Marxisma," in February 1937, a few months after this constitution had been put into effect. It can be summed up as follows:

Only in the Soviet Union freedom of conscience can be realized effectively since capitalist countries are under the sway of religion, the functions of which is to dull, mislead and put out of use the brains of people. Religious associations must lose all their influence in public life of the Soviet Union, they may be tolerated only somewhere on the backstairs and gradually they must die out.

During the Soviet occupation this official interpretation was nearly word by word repeated in the Estonian newspapers. So we read in the above quoted article of the "Kommunist" of the 9th of October: "In social conditions based on exploitation real freedom of conscience cannot be realized, since in such conditions religion is deeply rooted in economic life. In capitalist countries working people cannot possess any freedom of speech, press and conscience. Lenin writes about this: "Freedom of conscience in a bourgeois democracy is freedom used by the capitalist to buy or bribe whole clerical organizations for intoxicating masses with the opium of religion."

According to this official interpretation freedom of conscience consequently means and requires fight against religion by the all-powerful totalitarian state with the aim of annihilating it, and to attain this aim, religious associations must be oppressed in every way and must barely be tolerated somewhere on the backstairs of national life, so that they soon will gradually die out. It would be superfluous to explain that such a meaning of the freedom of conscience is diametrically opposed to the usual meaning of this word. What logic there still remains to speak about freedom of conscience and what reasonable sense it still can have to guarantee it as a civil right in the Constitution, if people already are "liberated from the fetters of religious ideas" and consequently no more religion exists at all, to this question the official interpreters of the Soviet Constitution give no answer whatever, although it inevitably will be spontaneously asked by every person who has the habit of respecting elementary rules of logic in his reasoning.

(The third installment of this documented story will show how the Red fight against religion in Estonia centered on the clergy).

INDIANA LEGISLATURE IN OPEN REVOLT AGAINST SUBSIDIES, DOLES, FEDERAL CONTROL

The people of Indiana are waking up to the fact that a Red Invisible Government in Washington has been using their money to finance and set up Communism all over the world.

If all the states would follow the lead of Indiana, the International Reds who control our Government agencies would not have the billions to pay for the distribution of our resources as Mr. Stalin wishes.

Following is a resolution recently adopted by the Indiana Legislature:

"Indiana needs no guardian and intends to have none. We Hoosiers — like the people of our sister states — were fooled for quite a spell with the magician's trick that a dollar taxed out of our pockets and sent to Washington, will be bigger when it comes back to us. We have taken a good look at said dollar. We find that it lost weight in its journey to Washington and back. The political brokerage of the bureaucrats has been deducted. We have decided that there is no such thing as "federal" aid. We know that there is no wealth to tax that is not already within the boundaries of the 48 states.

"So we propose henceforward to tax ourselves and take care of ourselves. We are fed up with subsidies, doles and paternalism. We are no one's step-child. We have grown up. We serve notice that we will resist Washington, D. C., adopting us.

"Be it resolved by The House of Representatives of The General Assembly of the State of Indiana, The Senate concurring: That we respectfully petition and urge Indiana's Congressmen and Senators to vote to **fetch our county court house and city halls back from Pennsylvania Avenue. We want our government to come home.** Resolved, further, that we call upon the legislatures of our sister states and on good citizens everywhere who believe in the basic principles of Lincoln and Jefferson to join with us, and we with them, to **restore the American Republic and our 48 states to the foundations built by our fathers.**

"Adopted by House, January 13, 1947
"Adopted by Senate, Jan. 22, 1947".

If you do not receive THINK WEEKLY regularly through present source of sale, we suggest you mail in subscription so you will be sure to get the paper each week without delay.

AS WE GROW OLDER

by Dr. Alfred P. Haake
(Released by George Peck)

(Editor's Note: Alfred P. Haake, Ph.D., Mayor of Park Ridge, Illinois, is a noted Economist, Business Consultant, Lecturer and Author.)

As we grow older we learn that there are certain fundamental laws which man cannot change, and most of the troubles of the world come from trying to change those laws instead of adapting ourselves to them. One of them is that a soft object gets hurt when it hits a hard object. No sensible person tries to make a hole in a brick wall by butting it with his bare head. The wall is harder than the head, and the head gets hurt. You may win an election on the platform that heads ought to be harder than brick walls, with lots of people believing the nonsense, but when the election is all over, you will still smash your head if you butt it against the brick wall.

Sometimes people get so excited about something they would like to see done that they forget to find out whether or not the way which they propose to use is a sound and sure way to do it.

It would be fine to have more to eat and wear and enjoy, and there are people who set out to get those things for us by the simple process of just giving everybody more money, arguing that we can raise the standard of living by paying higher wages, even though men do not do more work to earn those wages.

But, the plain truth, the law, is that we cannot have more without first producing more. We cannot eat bread until after it has been baked. We cannot have more cars to drive unless those cars are first made. And to wear more suits of clothes, we must produce more suits of clothes. We cannot eat or drive or wear in hopes and promises.

To ignore the laws of God is to ask for disaster. To obey those laws is to find true happiness and fulfilment.

VANDEBURG, O VANDENBURG

Vandenburg, O Vandenburg,
How strange are thy evasions!
Why do you seem to hug the beam
Of old New Deal liaisons?
Play not the Willkie one-world game
Put all that bunk behind you.
Be forthright so your friends will
know
Just where to look to find you.
— Ellis O. Jones.

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The profit belongs to America — in the preservation of its freedoms and its Christian Way of Life!!!

VOICE OF THE READER

Nusquehoning, Pa.
March 1, 1947

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